

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NEW DE 03896 210629Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13
AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /088 W
-----210633Z 020285 /11

O 210517Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1979
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL MADRAS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DACCA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE
CINCPAC HONOLUU

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 3896

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.9. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, IN
SUBJECT: INDIAN ELECTIONS: PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF RESULTS

REF: NEW DELHI 3894

1. IMPACT OF ELECTION ISSUES HAS FOLLOWED GENERAL EXPECTATIONS: ROLE OF EMERGENCY, FAMILY PLANNING, AND RISE OF SANJAY GANDHI WAS GREATEST IN NORTH AND LEAST IN SOUTH. FEW, HOWEVER, ENVISAGED INTENSITY OF NORTH INDIAN ANT-CONGRESS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NEW DE 03896 210629Z

FEELING AND MASSIVE REPUDIATION OF PM AND HER SUPPORTERS WHICH HAS OCCURRED. ENTIRE PROCESS HAS BEN REAFFIRMATION OF EFFECTIVENESS OF DEMOCRACY AND WILLINGNESS OF VOTERS TO VIGOROUSLY ASSERT THEIR RESENTMENTS AT THE POLLS.

2. THE MOST DRAMATIC EVENT IN THE ELECTIONS HAS BEEN DEFEAT OF BOTH MRS. GANDHI AND SANJAY IN ELECTIONS BY SUBSTANTIAL

MARGINS. RESULTS DEMONSTRATED HONESTY OF ELECTIONS AND VIRTUALLY ELIMINATED OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO MRS. GANDHI TO RESIST OVERTURN OF HER GOVERNMENT IN POLLS BY EXTRA-CONSTITUTIONAL MEANS. DECISION TO REPEAT 1975 STATE OF EMERGENCY APPEARS TO INDICATE MRS. GANDHI HAS ACCEPTED HER DEFEAT.

3. JANATA/CFD COALITION MARGIN OVER CONGRESS REMAINS RELATIVELY SMALL OVERALL AT THIS POINT (ROUGHLY 144 TO 126 AS OF 0900 MARCH 21). WITH CONGRESS STRENGTH APPARENTLY LIMITED VIRTUALLY EXCLUSIVELY TO SOUTH INDIA AND WITH MOST OF THE SEATS ALREADY REPORTED FROM THAT AREA, HOWEVER, THE "OPPOSITION" MARGIN IS WIDENING STEADILY. JANATA/CFD IS AHEAD IN VIRTUALLY ALL UTTAR PRADESH CONSTITUENCIES NOT YET FINALLY COUNTED AND IN MOST OF THOSE IN BIHAR. EXPECTATIONS ARE THAT RESULTS IN CURRENT GENERAL TRENDS CONTINUE, NEW LOK SABHA WILL BE SHARPLY SPLIT ON NORTH/SOUTH REGIONAL BASIS BETWEEN CONGRESS IN THE SOUTH AND ANTI-CONGRESS PARTIES IN THE NORTH. MUCH WILL DEPEND ON EXTENT TO WHICH DEFEATED CONGRESS HOLDS TOGETHER. IN ALL EVENTS, WITH MRS. GANDHI ELIMINATED AS MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, NEW CONGRESS MPS IN THE LOK SABHA WILL HAVE WIDE RANGE OF OPTIONS SO FAR AS DEALING WITH SUCCESSFUL OPPOSITION LEADERS AND SUBSTANTIAL REALIGNMENTS MAY TAKE PLACE IN NEXT FEW DAYS. PROBABILITY OF LEADER FROM SOUTH BEING CHOSEN AS HEAD OF CONGRESS SEEMS HIGH ALTHOUGH REORGANIZATION OF CFD AND CONGRESS WITH MRS. GANDHI OUT COULD PRODUCE DIFFERENT RESULTS.

5. HOW NEW GOVERNMENT IS STRUCTURED MUST AWAIT CLEARER EVIDENCE OF WHETHER JANATA ACHIEVES OUTRIGHT MAJORITY ON ITW
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NEW DE 03896 210629Z

OWN AND CAN NEGOTIATE WITH CFD FROM POSITION OF GREAT STRENGTH OR WILL REQUIRE CFD VOTES IN ORDER TO FORM GOVERNMENT. MORARJI DESA (JANATA) AND JAGJIVAN RAM (CFD) ARE MAIN CONTENDERS FOR PRIME MINISTER. VIEWS OF JAYAPARAKASH NARAYAN WILL BE IMPORTANT IN DETERMINING DECISION. IT IS NOT FOREGONE CONCLUSION, DESPITE STATEMENTS TO CONTRARY BY JANATA AND CFD LEADERS, THAT ELECTION PARTNERS WILL REMAIN TOGETHER.
SCHNEIDER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION RESULTS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NEWDE03896
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770095-1201
Format: TEL
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770339/aaaabhsi.tel
Line Count: 106
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d1abd4b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 NEW DELHI 3894
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3046706
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INDIAN ELECTIONS: PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF RESULTS
TAGS: PINT, IN, (GANDHI, INDIRA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d1abd4b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009